Minority beneficiaries under merit-cum-means scholarship in U.P.

1477. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of beneficiaries belonging to minorities in Uttar Pradesh, under the merit-cum-means scholarship for professional and technical courses at Under-Graduate and Post-Graduate level, Pre-Matric and Post-Matric scholarship during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise; and

(b) how the above scholarships are helping to rapidly increase the educational level among minorities in the State?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) and (b) Financial assistance is provided to meritorious students belonging to the minority communities, who satisfy the specified income criteria, under these three scholarship schemes. The details of students sanctioned scholarships under the merit-cum-means and post-matric scholarship schemes, being implemented from 2007-08, for Uttar Pradesh are available at the website of the Ministry of Minority Affairs: *www.minorityaffairs.gov.in*. Pre-matric scholarship scheme is being implemented from 2008-09. An evaluation of these schemes would be in order after a few years of implementation.

Coaching to minority students

1478. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of students from minority community admitted in public sector/Government institutes for providing coaching for admission in higher, technical and professional courses;

(b) the criteria laid down for identification of such coaching institutes in each State; and

(c) the steps taken for selection of students for admission to these coaching institutes?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) to (c) The detailed criteria and procedure for selection of coaching institutes and students are available on the *website www.minorityaffairs.gov.in*. Since 2006-07, approval for coaching 6602 students belonging to minority communities has been given to 76 coaching institutes for different courses. These include seven institutes in the government/public sector.

Discrimination and atrocities against minorities

1479. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the observation made by the Chairman, National Commission for Minorities reported in the media recently that incidence of discrimination and atrocities against minorities was the highest in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether Government has verified the observation made before the media by the head of the Commission stating whether it was a summary of any report already submitted to Government;